1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Maharashtra	118	2174.380	95	1696.805	121	1802.633
Manipur	4	76.655	3	61.74	3	45.51
Meghalaya	2	21.850	1	8.19	2	159.57
Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nagaland	2	155.585	1	27.485	4	178.205
Orissa	13	114.048	6	129.41	2	38.68
Pondicherry	2	16.300	2	31.3	0	0
Punjab	26	519.539	32	481.45	61	841.36
Rajasthan	33	506.160	35	566.075	44	551.975
Sikkim	1	0.150	0	0	0	0
Tamil Nadu	52	745.127	53	951.79	36	594.355
Tripura	1	0	2	39.98	1	13.86
Uttar Pradesh	56	840.948	63	1123.425	43	875.475
Uttranchal	17	437.392	9	339.78	6	163.15
West Bengal	47	963.430	35	653.56	19	390.135
TOTAL :	658	12481.128	569	10725.2	579	9765.767

Development of agro processing as cottage industry

†2467. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that irrespective of purposeful increase in the prices of agricultural produce, farmers are unable to get the benefit of it rather it leads to price rise instead;

(b) whether agro processing is required to be established at the rural and farmer's family levels to extend the benefit of value addition of agricultural produce to farmers and if so, the existing work plan therefor; and

(c) whether there is any plan for the development of technologies, so that agro processing could be made a cottage industry?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) At present, farming is not demand driven and there is total disconnect between the farmer & the market on one side, and the farmer & the industry on the other. Due to this disconnect as well as due to the serious gaps in the on-farm infrastructure like primary processing centres, strategic distribution centres, collection centres, supply chain, cold chain infrastructure/ value addition

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

infrastructure etc. there is often huge wastage of agricultural produce as a result of which the farmer is not able to get remunerative price for his produce.

(b) and (c) To address these issues, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries has prepared a Vision Document which, *inter alia,* aims at increasing the processing levels from 6% to 20 %, the value addition from 20 % to 35 % and improve the share of India agri-exports in the world from 1.5% to 3% by 2015. To achieve these objectives, the Ministry has taken strategic initiatives in the development of food processing infrastructure which aims at filling the gaps in the on-farm infrastructure & provide demand driven clusterised farming. The Government has approved a scheme for Mega Food Parks, which envisages a well-defined agri/horticultural-processing zone containing state of the art processing facilities starting from the farm gate itself with support infrastructure and well established supply chain. The scheme aims to provide a mechanism to bring together farmers, processors and retailers and link agricultural production to the market so as to ensure maximization of value addition, minimization of wastages and improving farmers' income. This would result in improving the economic viability of agricultural operations.

Other strategic initiatives during 11th Plan include scheme for Integrated Cold Chain and Preservation Infrastructure including Controlled Atmosphere/Modified Atmosphere Storage, Value Added Centres, Packaging Centres and Irradiation facilities & modernization of abattoirs. The Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/ Modernisation of Food Processing Industries is aimed at creation of new processing capacity and up-gradation of existing processing capabilities and modernization of Food Processing Sector to include Milk , Fruit & Vegetables , Meat, Poultry, fishery, cereal, consumer items , oil seeds, rice milling, flour milling, pulse etc. The Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, R&D and Promotional Activities, is aimed at motivating the food processing industries for adoption of food safety and quality assurance mechanisms such as TQM including ISO 14000, ISO 22000, HACCP, GMP, GHP, and preparing them to face global competition in post WTO Regime. The Scheme for Human Resource Development focuses on developing technologists, managers, Entrepreneurs and manpower for quality management in Food Processing units.

The Scheme for Strengthening of Institutions is aimed at strengthening of existing institutes like Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology & establishing National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM) which would provide a single point solution to the problems of the sector. Besides above mentioned institutions, two new Boards have been set up under the Ministry *i.e.* Indian Grape processing Board and National Meat and Poultry Processing Board under the scheme.

In addition to the above mentioned initiatives, certain fiscal incentives have been given to the food processing industry. Some of these are exemption to fruits and vegetable processing units from paying income tax, reduction of excise duty on ready to eat packaged foods and instant food mixes from 16% to 8%.There is automatic approval for 100% foreign equity in food processing sector so as to attract maximum foreign direct investment.